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PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)) Kenneth M. MAXHAM

Application No.) 10/037,085

Filing Date) December 20, 2001

Title) SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SELECTING THE

PLACEMENT OF OPTICAL AMPLIFIERS IN

AN OPTICAL NETWORK

Examiner) Christina Y. Leung

Art Unit) 2633

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 USA

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir/Madam:

In response to the final Office Action mailed November 10, 2005, rejecting Claims 1-35 of the above-referenced Application, in which Claims 1-35 are pending, Applicant respectfully requests that the following amendments be entered and remarks be considered. In view of these amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that the Application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests such action, without further search.

Amendments to the Claims begin on Page 2;

Remarks begin on Page 11; and

Conclusion begins on Page 17